

THE BRITISH CONTRACTS

-As Seen From London-

By Michael Foot, M.P.

WHILE most of the Tory party is still engaged in an unseemly wrangle about whether or not it should have any economic policy at all, Mr. Oliver Lyttleton, the Tory member for Aldershot, is put up to fill the gap.

Mr. Lyttleton thinks almost everything in the garden was looking lovely round about the year 1933. He hates anything new.

He even hates the new trade treaties which the government has been making. This week he has been "pointing out again the disastrous results of this system of bulk buying."

Divided

One or two other members of the Tory party, notably Mr. R. S. Hudson, have not been so forthright in condemning this system. Mr. Hudson saw the advantage of giving guaranteed markets to our own farmers. Perhaps, therefore, he thinks it logical to make guaranteed arrangements with some other of our essential suppliers, for instance, in the British dominions.

But, obviously Mr. Hudson, with his passion for logic, is something of a Tory freak. Lyttleton is against bulk-buying. Woolton is against it. Brendan Bracken is against it. It is legitimate, therefore, to take it that the Tories are officially against this policy.

Mostly, the Tories are against bulk-buying on the grounds that it raises the price we have to pay for goods from abroad. This charge has been answered time and again by members of the government. But, of course, John Strachey and Harold Wilson are wicked Labor propagandists. What is the independent evidence?

It so happens that this week a good witness appears. Sir Hubert Henderson is not a wicked Labor party propagandist, but the Drummond Professor of Political Economy in the University of Oxford. He writes in the National Provincial Bank Review, which is not an undercover publication of Transport House. This is what he says:

"A large part of our supplies from the British dominions and other empire countries is obtained under bulk purchase contracts, at agreed prices fixed to cover a considerable period.

"These prices have usually been well below the inflated world market level and to this we mainly owe the fact that though the over-all relation between the prices of our imports and of our exports has changed to our disadvantage, the change has been moderate till now."

Sir Hubert quotes these facts to warn us that we may not be able to "renew these contracts on terms as favorable as we have had in the past. That is a proper warning. But how successfully he has destroyed the Tory argument that the Labor government has been making bad bargains!

"Too Good!"

The heavy rise in the cost of food and raw material we have to import is the major cause of our difficulties. But here is Sir Hubert saying that this rise would have been even more serious had it not been for the wise arrangements made by the government and which the Tories are busy attacking.

Without these bulk contracts, not merely would be flow of sup-

plies to this country have been much less certain, but the price would have been considerably higher.

When the Tory noses are rubbed in these simple facts they usually retort by destroying their own case completely, and asserting that the bargains made by the government have been too good. They accuse us of causing bad blood with our suppliers by buying below the world price.

Supplier Benefits, Too

The answer, of course, is that bulk contracts give an advantage to the supplier as well as to the buyer; which is the reason, curiously enough, why they enter into them.

The producer of food in the dominions or the colonies wants precisely what the producer of food in this country desires—an assured market which will enable him to get on with the job of increasing production. For that guarantee he is often prepared to accept a somewhat lower price, and all over the British Commonwealth today one of the best incentives to increased production is the knowledge, provided by these bulk contracts, that Britain will buy all that can be produced.

Sanity

Altogether, this system which Mr. Lyttleton describes as "disastrous" is a sign of sanity in an

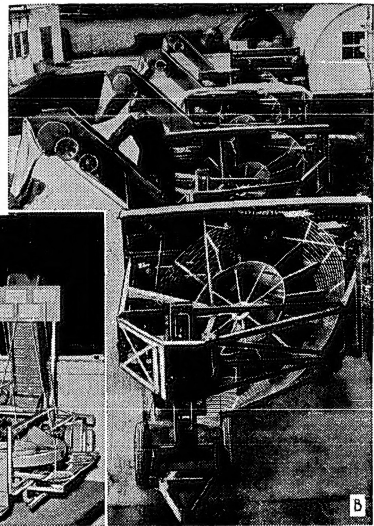
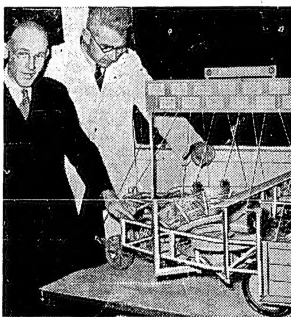
insane world. It can provide a bulwark against some of the mad workings of the world price level.

In 1933, when Mr. Lyttleton's system was in operation, large parts of the British Commonwealth were struck as if by a hurricane because of the collapse of prices for primary products.

Today, a system is being initiated which can combine the interests of the British consumer and the producer of food in the dominions and colonies. It is a great adventure in Commonwealth relations. But to our Tories, who once believed in the British Empire, it is just another "disaster".

Potato Harvester Bridges Gap Between Land and Market

20 MEN'S WORK is done by a new potato harvester (pictured right) beginning to stream from the production lines in Britain. Weighing only 2,800 lbs., towed behind a tractor, operated by three men, it digs, cleans and bags ready for market at the rate of 50 long-tons in 8 hours. Pictured below is the British inventor, 47-year-old Mr. P. J. Puckman (left), demonstrating a model. Without chains or belts, the machine operates on all types of land.



Wonderful Free Enterprise!

By DONALD C. MacDONALD

THERE'S just no doubt about it—Canadian free enterprise is in a class by itself. Look, for example, at which is happening on our northern frontier.

A bit north and west of Yellowknife lies the Snare river. It offers great possibilities for power development; and power is greatly needed. As every Canadian school child knows, that area is one of our richest mining developments.



The cost of developing power would be about \$3,000,000; and the cost of distributing it another \$1,000,000 or so. A wonderful opportunity for initiative, for risk capital, and all the rest of it.

Fortunately, there are some of Canada's stalwart champions of free enterprise right on the spot. Among them, Consolidated Mining and Smelting Co. Ltd.

C.P.R. Subsidiary

Consolidated Mining and Smelting, you'll recall, is a subsidiary of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Canadian Pacific Railway has assets of well over \$1,500,000,000. Consolidated Mining and Smelting, is no small-picking itself; assets of over \$91,000,000

in 1946, up from \$75,000,000 in 1945.

Moreover, the only transport into the Yellowknife area for a great part of the year is by air. Canadian Pacific Airlines services that part of the country on an exclusive franchise. Canadian Pacific Airlines, as you know, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Canadian Pacific Railway. In addition, many of the mines in the area—Yellowknife, Ptarmigan and others—are wholly or partially owned by Consolidated Mining and Smelting, and therefore by the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Government-Financed

So plans are being worked out to meet the power needs of this great economic empire. Worked out by whom? By the Canadian Pacific Railway or Consolidated Mining and Smelting? Of course

not! By the department of mines and resources.

Speaking on the Dominion Water Power Bill, during its third reading in the senate, Feb. 20, 1948, Senator F. W. Gershaw, of Medicine Hat, Alberta, explained why:

"It is necessary that the government build this plant because private concerns would not undertake so large an expenditure."

Apparently the word "free" in free enterprise has reference to the access of our giant corporations to public funds for underwriting their risk capital and profits.

One nice thing about soap operas. If the missus misses them for two weeks, she knows the heroines can't be in any worse fix than they were.

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BRANT MATTHEWS, (Proprietor)



GET CRACKING!

Reading newspapers and editorials these days reminds me of Mark Twain's remark about the weather. "Everybody is talking about the weather or complaining about it, but no one seems to do anything about it," said the author of Huckleberry Finn. Well, that surely applies to democracy. Every editor, every commentator and politician is constantly remarking about the weaknesses of our democracy or warning us about the dangers that are lurking all around us to democracy, but no one seems to take the trouble to do anything about it. Just belly-aching and bawling.



Not that I think there is anything wrong with calling our attention to the weaknesses of democracy and warning us about the dangers to which it is subject. I think that it is all right to be critical of our way of life and to be aware of its faults. The first step in the protection of democracy is a consciousness of its weak spots.

What gets me and the average Canadian is the absolute refusal by those who do the warning about the perils to democracy to take any effective steps towards protecting democracy. All of them agree that social injustice, inequality of income, special privilege, exploitation and economic insecurity are the weak spots in democracy. All of them agree that the above conditions are dangerous in our community and undermine the confidence of Canadians in our democracy. All of them agree that it is the underprivileged, the under-fed, the under-housed and the under-paid who lend their ears to "un-American" and "un-Canadian" doctrines. They all admit that from prime ministers to industrial captains.

Well, why not do something about it instead of just frothing at the mouth. My goodness! Something can be done about it, surely. Something has been done even about the weather. President Roosevelt did attempt to do something anyway. During the hungry thirties he put a lot of idle young men to work on reforestation projects that are now showing results in moisture retention. Whole areas have been reclaimed by human effort to change the weather.

Something can be done about social reclamations. Of course it can. Many countries have abolished slums, wiped out unemployment, curbed profiteering, raised living standards, instituted social security measures and thus made the community immune to dangerous thoughts and dangerous doctrines.

Democracy is not suffering from any mysterious malady. The disease has been analyzed, checked and double-checked. The treatment has been tested and found effective. The means to administer the treatment are to hand. Canada is a country of means. We know about it. Yet, when someone proposes to those in a position to administer the treatment—they refuse to do it. All they do is to keep on belly-aching and worrying about the ultimate disaster that will overtake democracy if something isn't done. When the C.C.F. proposes price controls, profit controls, more equal distribution of national income, a minimum of planning in our national business

The People Speak

Letters to the editor may be published under a pseudonym, but in each case the name and address of the writer must be forwarded to the editor as evidence of good faith. The People's Weekly takes no responsibility for opinions expressed by correspondents and will not publish any letters exceeding 300 words in length.

SOCIAL CREDIT DIVIDENDS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: It is gratifying to notice that there is gradually more, but not enough, pointed attention paid to the following two basic points in C.C.F. writings and discussions. First, in respect to Social Credit the basic fallacy of the whole thing is that you just can't issue credit against goods or services owned and controlled by someone else.

Whether it be direct national dividend, purchaser's discounts or credit (money) issued against our natural resources, it still remains credits or claims against someone else's property. Money or credit as such has no real value. Goods and services have.

When such money or credits are issued under our profit-dominated system, one of two things happen—either the owners of the goods raise their prices (inflation) to get for themselves the extra money (or credits) in circulation, or they refuse to accept the credits (funny money) in return for goods—witness the Prosperity Certificates.

In either case, the money or credits are useless and serve no purpose. The only other alternative to the above conditions is strict government controls (Social Credit bureaucracy).

On the other hand, publicly or co-operatively owned goods as advocated by the C.C.F. would maintain their voluntary price level (no profit motive) and the additional issues of money would serve their purpose.

The second point, which I have not space to expand, is that when a private (corporation) profit government, that includes Social Credit—and themselves in a corner or a tough spot, they have to adopt the Socialist principle of public enterprise to find their solution.

The fact that they may deliberately or through incompetence abuse the principle to try to discredit it doesn't alter the argument.

LARS PETERSON.

Holden.

TRUTHS AND UNTRUTHS

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: This contribution is sent to you for the purpose of drawing the attention of your readers to certain remarks expressed by Rev. N. B. James, a Social Credit Edmonton provincial M.L.A., in his recently published book. First of all, in the foreword, Mr. James says: "While it is supposed to be an autobiography, the author does not claim any more truthfulness in it than you would find in any other autobiography." And then on page 185, I read: "While I am on this subject I might as well get rid of the stupid fabrication that we went around promising everybody \$25 a month if they would vote for us. As far as I know that was never done by even the least responsible of the candidates."

However, on page 197 I found this surprising passage of truth: "The Liberal party, owing to a manipulated scandal linked with the Farmer government, had hoped to wipe them out and take their place."

Mr. James does not tell his readers that the promoters of Social Credit in 1935 also used "the manipulated scandal" in their Sunday afternoon broad-

sheeting, those belly-aching cry "Reds" or "Socialists". I am sick of this psychopathic political hysteria by well-to-do stationers and successful businessmen. Democracy is in danger! Help! Help! All right, right, right, democracy is in danger. Why don't you do something about it? You're in power. Get cracking. Quit belly-aching.

casts "to wipe out the Farmer administration and take their place."

And here is my last quotation from page 233: "Besides this I had to write a whole page every week for 'The Canadian Social Creditor'... and I have really landed myself in a mess, and I am beginning to think the sooner I get out of it the better."

All "Social Credit" is a mess. Falsehoods originated it and falsehoods have maintained it until now. The time has now arrived when the mess must be cleaned up. Let us do it thoroughly.

JOHN F. MILNER.

Fallis, Alta.

MANNING'S UNCHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: It with a feeling of anger and disgust that I read of the insulting personal remarks which the premier of this province addresses to those who dare to differ from him in their political viewpoint. His remarks to the leader of the Liberal party, wherein he stated: "He will learn that it takes more than a swelled head and an overdose of conceit to win elections in this province," shows plainly that he is lacking in even the rudiments of gentlemanly behavior. I hold no brief for the Liberal party, but I would remind the premier that during the time he was living in comfort and luxury, this man whom he insults, was risking his life in the armed forces overseas.

As I look back over the past 10 years and think of those broadcasts—mixtures of blood streams, British Israelism, the great pyramid, and fountain pens—and above all, quotations from Holy Writ implying that those who supported the Social Credit bank were amongst the blessed, and those who did not were amongst the damned (which in this case included myself) I marvel at the credulity of those who were victims of this humbug.

Manning had a golden opportunity to show how a sincere Christian could and should conduct himself in the political arena. He has failed lamentably to do so and has brought contempt and ridicule rather than honor on the cause of religion and one cannot help feeling that all this religious fervor was nothing but window dressing to catch the votes of those whose main error lay in thinking he was sincere.

Never in the history of provincial politics has a people been so shamefully betrayed as have the people of Alberta by one whose squandering of the natural resources (the true social dividend) is only equalled by his loathsome hypocrisy.

I understand he is being given an honorary degree by the University of Alberta. I would suggest that it will not add to the prestige of this institution.

J. GARFIELD BAKER.

Bittern Lake.

FARMERS HAVE "COSTS" TOO

Editor, People's Weekly.

Sir: That front-page story dealing with "Bank Advertising", indicating that "chartered banks, in common with other corporations, are permitted to deduct from gross revenue all reasonable operating expenses before arriving at net taxable income" should be carefully noted by farmers everywhere.

As you know, it is the gross revenues of agriculture that get all the publicity. In a hundred ways, the fact that the total cash income of the nation's 731,000 farmers in 1947 reached \$1,800,000,000 has been ploughed into the minds of urban Canadians—but, if one may say so, there is a conspiracy of silence and a veritable



By H. ZELLA SPENCER

In my last letter I spoke of reading a most eulogistic article on Premier Manning, entitled, "Religion and Politics Blended" in the Toronto Saturday Night. One paragraph struck me very forcibly, as it remarked that in general the financial interests and heads of utilities in Alberta were strongly in favor of retaining Manning and that it was an open secret they supported him financially and would continue to do so regardless of their regular party affiliation.

When I finished reading it I could not but think the writer would be well paid, even if his sole reward were the usual, so much per inch, for he prolonged his eulogy to length. Among other things he referred to Mr. Manning's devoted copying of Mr. Aberhart which was so pronounced that even his voice assumed the Aberhart tone. And also I wondered if, as they say, Mr. Aberhart wouldn't have turned in his grave had he read this same comment on his disciple and had seen where it was appearing. Also I thought of a thesis I had read by one who came to Alberta to make a thorough study of the rise of the Social Credit movement here. One conclusion reached in this was that town and country people did not seem to be particularly interested in each

other and in what they did and so did not make a point of pulling together. In this political instance however, they were united against the money interests of the east and together registered the strong Social Credit vote. Reading this later article, it would seem that the cement had been of poor quality.

No doubt this Toronto Saturday Night article will be copied. I shouldn't be surprised if excerpts appear in the Canadian Social Creditor for, as I say, it is most eulogistic, but I fancy there will be omissions in the copy.

And Mr. Roper might just as well know where he stands and I shall quote further, "As of today Manning stands head and shoulders above the opposing leaders whose campaigning has steadily dropped them in favor throughout the Province." But may I add the word of appreciation? We do not all agree by any means—quite the contrary. But I think we do agree that that is the position in which the C.C.F. in Alberta finds itself. The moneyed interests, as this eulogistic article says, will support the Social Credit party financially. That means one thing: We must work the harder and as we sometimes say on the farm, "We'll have to dig deeper into our jeans."

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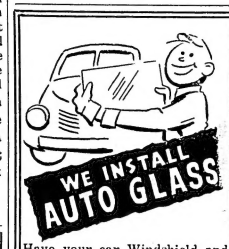
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Hospital Plan at

(Continued from Page 1)

wide area provincially sponsored hospitalization plan. If every adult over 18 years contribute \$10 annually to the hospitalization fund, Mr. Winch estimated that \$7,222,000 would be obtained, which with present grants made by the province and the municipalities of \$2,000,000, would make \$9,222,000 available for the hospital fund. The province would then be required to find from consolidated revenue only \$580,000. This additional expenditure argued Mr. Winch, was well within the resources of the province and would be more than offset by the resulting conservation of health.



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Fire Fighters, No. 209, International Association—Meets in No. 2 Fire Hall, President, Tom Street, 9544 101st Ave.; Edmonton; Secretary-Treasurer, W. Young, 12114 Jasper Ave., Edmonton.

PEOPLE'S WEEKLY

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE ALBERTA C.C.F.
PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY
At 10010 102 Street, Edmonton, Alberta
Publication Board:

B. E. Cook, Gordon Clark, John King, Clifford E. Lee,
W. Margolis, Mrs. Nellie Peterson
Subscription: \$2.00 per year; 3 years, \$5.00
"Authorized" as second-class mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa"

Vol. XXVIII, No. 30

March 20, 1948

DOING THEIR JOB

MEMBERS of a legislative assembly who are not active in expressing in the assembly the views of the people they are paid to represent are derelict in their duty. It is noticeable that in every legislature in Canada where there are C.C.F. members, and in parliament, they are continually active. They are truly trying to say in the legislative halls the things the majority of the people would say if they were there.

Such activity is always resented by the seat-warmers who are too lazy, or too indifferent to their constituents' needs, to do more than act as yes-men to the government.

It is an odd day in the Alberta legislature when there is no example of this. For instance, the C.C.F. members this week brought before the House a resolution dealing with income tax forms for farmers. The farmers are up in arms about the absurd and unfair form they are asked to fill out and every farm organization in the country is protesting.

The C.C.F. members moved a resolution to put the legislature behind the farmers' protests. They said in the House what the farmers would have said if they had been there.

The government did not dare to oppose such a move, but the Social Credit member put up to speak on it had to make a sneeringly sarcastic remark to the effect that he was glad the C.C.F. "farm experts" were looking after the interests of the farmers.

We don't think the C.C.F. members of the Alberta legislature have made any claims to being "farm experts". But in their determination to get before the House the views of the farm people they have promoted more discussion on farm problems than all the other members of the legislature combined.

THE RED CROSS

THROUGHOUT the war the work of the Red Cross brought comfort to scores of thousands of people who needed its ministrations. It filled a great need and performed a service which no other organization could do.

There is a great need also for the peacetime work of the Red Cross. Its major project, that of providing free blood and plasma for transfusions, is saving lives daily. In the two provinces where the blood donor service is in operation, in British Columbia and Alberta, all who know anything about it agree that it is a very wonderful contribution to the saving of human life.

It was the people of Canada who during the war put up the money which made Red Cross services possible. It is the people of Canada who must put up the money for peacetime services.

The Red Cross does through its services what every well-meaning person would be glad to do for another in a case of emergency. The Red Cross is the instrument through which the individual may perform a work of mercy. It is to be hoped that the present campaign for funds for the Red Cross may be entirely successful.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

IT WAS A forthright statement on the situation in Czechoslovakia that was made by the National Executive of the C.C.F. in Ottawa the other day. It leaves no room for doubt on the part of anyone as to the reaction of the Canadian movement.

The final betrayal at that unfortunate country is but the logical sequence to the brutal disregard for this lone bastion of democracy in the capitalist appeasement policy that made of Czechoslovakia a sacrificial pawn in the ruthless game of pre-war power politics.

Democratic Socialism stands alone and must fight to establish conditions that make dictatorship abhorrent. The National Executive statement follows:

Czechoslovakia offers the latest example of Communist ruthlessness and contempt for democratic principles and methods.

The Czech people had for centuries carried on a struggle for democratic self-government. After World War I they established a republic whose institutions and social progress were a model of democratic advance. During World War II, Czechoslovakia turned voluntarily toward the Soviet Union in its foreign policy. An all-inclusive Czech government had been formed and all parties kept loyally to a pro-Soviet external policy and to an internal policy of socialization and land reform. In short, in the new Czechoslovakia, Russia had a firm friend and the domestic Communists a dominant influence. Yet these things did not save Czechoslovakia.

Communist methods are the same everywhere. They are utterly irreconcilable with the aims, program and methods of the C.C.F. Our sympathy goes out to all Czech democrats, whose plight strengthens our determination to oppose Communism. Whatever their line at any particular time, the Communist goal always remains the same: the destruction of democracy and, with it, of the democratic socialist movements.

We emphasize, however, that the only effective way to combat Communism is by the establishment of social and economic justice in our own countries.

THE THIRD COLUMN

TO BLAST...

Edmonton Bulletin, March 3rd, 1948:

World Trade Week Opens Here May 30.

"Concentrated effort to expand trade and create more jobs will be made in Edmonton and across Canada within the next few weeks."

"Sponsored by Canadian Chamber of Commerce, World Trade Week opens May 30 and will endeavor to focus attention to the contribution of world trade and domestic employment. It will also attempt to have management and labor produce and sell more goods abroad."



...OR NOT TO BLAST

Employment and Income, p7, Presented to Parliament by the Minister of Reconstruction.

April, 1945:

"The expansion of exports is not looked on as a means by which unemployment is to be transferred from this to other countries, nor is the contraction of Canadian imports any part of the government's employment policy."



WANTED: 7,276 TEACHERS

Information Branch, Department of Labor, February 1:

"The shortage of fully qualified teachers in Canada—especially in rural one-room schools—acute in 1946, increased in 1947, according to a survey carried out by the Canadian Education Association."

"The most recent information supplied by the provincial departments of education shows that the current shortage of qualified teachers in elementary and secondary schools is now 7,276 as compared with 6,447 at the same time in 1946."

"Although there are a large number of unfilled openings for teachers in all types of elementary and secondary schools, the most serious shortage exists in the rural one-room schools. A comparison of the teacher shortage in one-room schools with that for all other schools shows that the one-room situation is almost 10 times as acute."



"BUSY BEAVERS"

Edmonton Bulletin, March 10:

"That pair of 'busy beavers,' Elmer Roper and A. J. E. Lieser, C.C.F. deskmen in the legislature, are responsible for five out of six questions and orders for returns appearing in legislative documents for Tuesday. Also for the only motion scheduled for private members' day."



THE FROZEN GRAIL

By Elsa Barker:

They never fail who light Their lamp of faith at the unwavering flame
Burnt for the altar service of the Race
Since the beginning.



ONLY A BY-PRODUCT

Who Owns Canada, p 15:

"Life insurance as operated at present is really only a by-product of the life insurance companies, whether they call themselves 'mutual' or not. The companies are controlled by the same men who control other financial corporations, and really act as a reservoir for the savings of the public, so that they may be placed more conveniently at the disposal of those who benefit by manipulating other people's money."

FOOTPRINTS

By Their Fruits

By J. P. Griffin

"And when Jesus saw the multitude he had compassion on them for they were like sheep without a shepherd."

THEY were like sheep. But they were like sheep—sheep without a shepherd. And seeing people like that, lost, bewildered, and defenceless. His immediate reaction was one of compassion. How clearly we recognize here in this great Jew the hallmark of the Divine. As he sees the people's unprotected impotence his determination is aroused to come to their aid. He sees them lost and at once begins to guide them home, he recognizes their bewilderment, and his heart overflowing with pity, he speaks to them to comfort, to guide and to encourage.

What a contrast to the attitude taken by the Pharisees. They too saw the multitude as sheep without a shepherd, and their hearts were glad. The silly ignorant people, giving up their property without a murmur and laying it at the altar, where the priest would presently pick it up; bringing their bits of coinage to be exchanged for temple currency—at a handsome discount by the money-changers. These peasants of field and fell, scarcely different from the animals with whom they spent their lives, did they really think that Jehovah would listen to their petitions, when his ears could catch the polished phrases sounding between the broad phylacteries and the tinkling bells that fringed the rabbis' robes! How these wolf-like business men licked their chops as they saw the

sheep-like customers coming to the Holy City.

The socialist looks out on the world today and sees the apathy of the people—running after trifles, resentful of restraint, and liable to sudden unaccountable panics. But he is not dismayed for he knows the glory and the splendor of their accomplishment too. Their instability only increases his sympathy and love. The monopolist looks at the same people, and his heart rejoices in that here are the fools to be fleeced of their money, the dumb cattle for the slaughter, the brains to be picked for profit, the souls to be crushed for cash.

A wolf-like contempt for his victims' feelings is also a sure indication of the Fascist mind. How dare the people question the right of authority to devour their incomes in taxes? How dare they mention in public that they heard the cry of little children? How dare they claim for their own what others have taken from them? Above all, how dare anyone set himself up as a shepherd, or presume to speak on behalf of the sheep?

This Socialist, they cry! This impractical dreamer! This worker who pretends to be as good as US! This agitator who stirreth up the people! Spit on him! Cover him from head to toe with saffron! Club him to the ground! Crush a crown of thorns upon his head and if need be crucify him! Thus saith the Pharisee. Thus saith the Fascist. Oh, reader, how say you?

On Quicksand Footing

By J. E. COOK

President, Alberta C.C.F.

NATURAL resources in the natural state, oil and mineral deposits, clay, timber, fish, and the primary products such as wheat, hogs, live poultry, needing secondary processing, are the very base of the whole business structure. Who owns such commodities or has effective control of them is the key to the question of who may use them, in what quantity they are available, and whether or not there shall be



new adaptations to meet advancing need.

Thus, who owns the leases to Alberta oil is the answer to who owns Alberta oil, where it will be marketed and in what quantity.

Well, who does own the productive oil leases in Alberta?

Prior to 1941 no exploration lease was granted to any one company for an area greater than 1,960 acres. Since that time leases were granted in blocks as high as 200,000 acres and four subsidiary companies could assign such areas to one parent company, making a total of 1,000,000 acres that could come under one company, in one field.

Belongs to Imperial

New oil was found at Leduc. The field belongs to the Imperial insofar as negotiations of the Alberta government are concerned. The premier says the field and the resources are being developed in a way to prevent monopoly. Custodian of this resource, a commodity that is vital to life today, the Alberta government can control no part either of supply or price. The oil belongs to the people of this province and the agent of the people, unless its agreement with Imperial Oil is broken, can not deliver to any place, at any time, one single gallon of crude by order, nor can the government even determine

by experience whether the commodity price is reasonable.

To say this is not monopoly development is to parrot silly phrases and ignore the facts. Insofar as the government is concerned, it is in the position of having dealt to one company all the known oil of the Leduc field.

Premier Is Vindictive

In the 1948 session of the Alberta legislature on the speech from the throne, the premier was very vindictive and bitter. Pointing to Mr. Harper Prowse, leader of the Alberta Liberals, and still smarting under some of the things Mr. Prowse said about his administration when accepting the leadership of the Liberal party last year to one Mr. Manning said: "The honorable member for the Army (the same Mr. Prowse, in his advanced role) has my sympathy; he is a leader without a party." In evident bitterness, he added: "He has yet to learn that it takes more than a swelled head and an overdose of conceit to win an election." Reply later, Mr. Prowse acknowledged the sympathy of the premier and in turn offered his condolences to the premier, of whom he spoke as "a leader with two parties."

Bristling at Elmer Roper, the premier asserted that "Roper will never be able to sell the C.C.F. to the people of Alberta." But in spite of the pious hope of the premier it is already evident that Elmer Roper, through the C.C.F. membership, will easily be able to sell to the Alberta electorate the simple idea that they can re-acquire by means of a properly marked ballot, ownership of THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY-SEVEN MILLION DOLLARS (\$377,772,000) of their own oil in the next 20 years, part of a recognized minimum production from the known area, of the Leduc oil field alone.

When to this is added a proper share of the oil development in the Abasand plant, the residue of

(Continued on Page 8)

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Electric Power For Woman Power

From a Radio Talk by

Mrs. G. Y. MacPhee of Camrose

By pressing a button, we women in the towns and cities light our homes, cook our meals, wash the clothes, heat the iron, run the vacuum and refrigerate the food. We take this for granted.

Unfortunately, there are many hundreds in Alberta, our friends and relatives on farms, who do not press buttons. How do you country women feel when you see the power lines pass your farms carrying energy to us in the towns? I know you, too, would like to use electric power instead of woman power to do the countless jobs that require real time and strength. But you have been told that this service would cost too much, the down payment would be enormous. So perhaps you accept your fate with but a murmur.

Public Ownership the Answer
Do you know that under public ownership as planned by the C.C.F. you would just pay your power bill each month as do the customers in town? In Ontario under the publicly-owned Hydro Electric Commission, 178,000 farms are electrified at low rates. Saskatchewan's Power Commission keeps on extending its lines and there have been three reductions in rates in the past three years.

C.C.F. Keeps Its Promise
When a private corporation supplies electric power it does it to make profits. It is not profitable to service most rural areas, so you are left out. It matters not that you waste time and energy and your children develop defective vision from inadequate lighting in schools. The C.C.F. contends that electric power

MRS. ILA DEE SLIGHT, FORMER PUBLISHER OF CAMROSE PAPER, DIES

It is with deep regret that the People's Weekly records the death of Mrs. Ila Dee Slight, former publisher of the Camrose Canadian, who passed away in Edmonton on Sunday, March 14. The funeral services were held on Wednesday, March 17, from the Camrose United Church.

She is survived by three daughters, Hallie Marion, Lorna and Carol, all of Edmonton; her father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Henry of Vancouver and four brothers.

Mrs. Slight was a good friend of the C.C.F. and the sympathy of the movement is extended to her family.

NOTICE

TO CREDITORS
AND CLAIMANTS

IN THE MATTER OF THE
Estate of GUSTAF FERDENANT
CARLSON, late of the Post Office
of Rich Lake, in the Province of
Alberta, Retired Farmer, deceased.

NOTICE is hereby given that all persons having claims upon the estate of the above named Gustaf Ferdinant Carlson, who died on the 27th day of September, A.D. 1947, are required to file with the undersigned solicitors by the 24th day of April, A.D. 1948, a full statement duly verified of their claims and of any securities held by them, and that after that date the Executors will distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which notice has been so filed or which have been brought to their knowledge.

DATED this 10th day of March, A.D. 1948.

MARKS & HADDAD,
720 Tegler Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.
Solicitors for the Executors.



should be publicly owned and operated for the use of all the people. The C.C.F. is fulfilling all its election promises in Saskatchewan. So it would in Alberta.

Use the Ballot

I appeal to the women who, for too long, have been silent and neglected. Learn what a C.C.F. government in Alberta would do for you. Then use your ballot to elect a C.C.F. government and you will light the rural homes and schools and lighten the work of the farmer and his wife.

Mrs. Nordstrom Appointed
Mrs. Nels Nordstrom, of Viking, has been appointed to the Women's Committee for Bruce Constituency.

Miss Isabel MacMillan, of the staff of the People's Weekly, will speak Wednesday, March 24th, 3:30 p.m., CFRN, on "Looking Down From the Press Gallery."

PRICE CONTROL IS REQUESTED BY CCL

OTTAWA (CPA)—A spontaneous "Hal Ha!" when Finance Minister Abbott told assembled labor leaders that he "didn't know whether price increases have caught up with wage increases or not but they probably pretty nearly have" broke the formality of the annual representatives heard the C.C.L. brief to the cabinet on March 5th. The laughter suggested that Abbott might do well to take a look at an average family budget these days.

"Planned in Advance"
Small consolation in the face of the C.C.L.'s most urgent demand—for the re-imposition of price controls—came in Mr. Abbott's comment that the rise was "planned in advance". The increase of more than 22 points in the cost of living was "about what we expected it to be," the minister said. The government would stand by its position that re-imposition of controls is "neither practical nor desirable".

Several hundred C.C.L.-affiliated union representatives heard Pat Conroy, national secretary-treasurer of the Congress, present a brief which urged, "there is no reason why the government should not re-establish sufficient machinery to control prices of basic commodities and services".

Ask Action on Housing
The labor organization, speaking for workers and their families (Continued on Page 8)

LIESEMER SPEAKS AT COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Community meetings have been arranged as follows by the Edmonton C.C.F.:

Friday, March 19, St. Anthony's Hall, 129 Ave. and 68 St., at 8:00 p.m. Speakers: A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., and John Burke, Chairman, Jack Hampson.

Monday, March 22, Anglican Church Hall, 12943 123 St., at 8:00 p.m. Speaker: A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A. Chairman, A. R. Mackay.

Tuesday, March 23, Alberta Ave. Community Hall, at 8:00 p.m. Speaker: A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A., Chairman, Jack Hampson.

TEA AND BAZAAR AT BOWNESS, MARCH 31

An Easter Tea with home cooking and sewing, sponsored by the ladies of the Bowness C.C.F., will be held at the Rex Theatre, Bowness, from 2:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 31st. A cordial invitation is extended to all.

Rural Electrification

MORE DOUBLE TALK BY GOVERNMENT

Social Credit back-benchers are worried because the government is opposing the things which they know the people in their constituencies want, declared A. J. E. Liesemer, when he addressed the Edmonton C.C.F. in the I.O.O.F. Hall on Tuesday evening.

He instanced the case of rural electrification and the attitude of the premier in the legislature on Tuesday afternoon when pressed to indicate the government's policy. Mr. Manning had replied that he was not going to be "stampeded" by the C.C.F. into any "ill-advised move" toward rural electrification.

The C.C.F. members reminded the premier that although rural electrification had been mentioned in the throne speech every year since 1944 nothing had been done and nothing is being done.

"Rapidly as Feasible"

In answering this charge, the premier reiterated his plan that the government planned to extend rural electrification throughout the province "as rapidly as feasible". It was significant, said Mr. Liesemer, that Mr. Manning stepped into the picture when rural electrification was mentioned as Hon. C. E. Gerhart, minister of municipal affairs, "is not skilled in double talk".

Can't Maintain Bluff

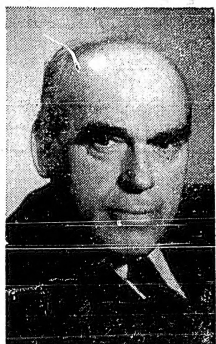
The two C.C.F. members were saying in the house what the people in the constituencies were saying and the Social Credit back-benchers were aware of this fact, said Mr. Liesemer. However, he declared, the Social Credit government can't forever maintain a bluff.

Hostile to Labor

The government's attitude on market roads, parity prices, gasoline prices, market roads and workmen's compensation were an indication of Social Credit resistance to the demands of the people. Their hostility to labor was also quite apparent, the speaker declared.

Taxes on property of merchants, farmers and homeowners are up because the S.C. government charges municipalities for old age pensions, indigent relief, mothers' allowances and education which in other provinces is paid by the provincial treasury, Mr. Liesemer pointed out. "The huge provincial surpluses have been built up, in part at least, at the expense of the

Federal Candidate



J. W. NOSEWORTHY

IS C.C.F. CANDIDATE IN SOUTH YORK SEAT

J. W. Noseworthy, Ontario CCF provincial organizer, has been nominated as the C.C.F. candidate in the federal constituency of South York.

SASK. LEGISLATIVE BROADCASTS ON CKCK

Herbert R. Boutilier, of Hairy Hill, writes in to say that he and his wife have been enjoying broadcasts of the debates in the Saskatchewan legislature. They are released from CKCK, Regina, at 3:15 p.m. and continue for over an hour. "It is heartening," he says, "to hear a real C.C.F. government in action."

"I haven't seen you at church lately, William," said the vicar. "What's the matter?"

"My daughter's learning to play the harp," replied William.

"But what's that got to do with it?"

"Well, I'm not so keen on going to Heaven as I was!"

municipal taxpayer," he contended.

The audience stood in a moment's silence in respect to the memory of D. L. Shortliffe, who died last week.

Held over for further consideration was an amendment to set up a permanent research committee to study the occupational hazards of nitric fume poisoning, coronary thrombosis and other diseases.

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Know Your Provincial Leader.

Short sketch of Elmer E. Roper adapted from People's Weekly.

The C.C.F. and Price Control.

The C.C.F. Record at Ottawa on price controls.

The Story of Alberta Oil.

Reprint of editorial from Farm and Ranch Review.

The Bondholders' Clean-up.

Complete Story of the Alberta Bond sell-out.

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ILSLEY, 1943 VS. ILSLEY, 1948

By DONALD C. MACDONALD

"THAT insidious subsidy system!"

With such biting scorn, the government now dismisses the use of subsidies to keep living costs down. The words are those of Justice Minister Ilesley, speaking in the House of Commons, Feb. 5, 1948. But during the war, Mr. Ilesley was Minister of Finance. In that capacity, it was his responsibility to hold the price line; national interest then took precedence over restoring free enterprise.

This is what Mr. Ilesley used to say—and what the C.C.F. still says today. Speaking in the House of Commons, July 7, 1945:

"The truth is, of course, that subsidies designed to keep down the cost of living serve a very definite and useful purpose, and that used judiciously, they are essential to any general policy of price stabilization, serving the dual purpose of ensuring supply and of protecting the standard of life and of those receiving low or moderate incomes."

Sound Policy

"As to the cost of the subsidies, this is borne not in proportion to

benefits received—then it would be a meaningless transfer from one pocket to the other—but, like any other war cost, in accordance with ability to pay. The family man who benefits most from stabilized living costs pays his share of subsidy costs not directly in proportion to the benefits received, but, on the contrary, according to his taxes, which vary inversely in proportion to the number of his dependents. Rich and poor benefit in proportion to what they consume; they pay in accordance with their income. In other words, the payment of subsidies distributes the burden of rising costs according to ability to pay. Far from being a policy of robbing Peter to pay Paul, the payment of subsidies to stabilize the cost of living is sound and in the best interests of the very groups in the community on whose behalf the honorable member (Mr. Knowles, C.C.F., Winnipeg North Centre) so often speaks."

There was more justice in Justice Minister Ilesley when he was in the department of finance. Also a clearer understanding of the facts of our economic life.

S.C. Government

GOES OUT OF WAY TO HURT WORKERS

"It must be more than a coincidence that every time a group of Alberta workers are engaged in a dispute with employers, some member of this government seems to think it necessary to make a public statement to embarrass the workers," said C.C.F. Leader Elmer E. Roper in the Alberta legislature last week.

He was referring to a statement of the Hon. C. E. Gerhart, minister of trade and industry, to the effect that the United Mine Workers of America, District 18, was not the "accredited" bargaining agent for the miners in the Edmonton district, where a strike is still in progress.

Absurd Claim
"It is difficult to understand by what peculiar process of reasoning the minister arrives at his conclusion that the U.M.W. of A. is not the recognized bargaining agent," Mr. Roper said. "Up to the day the strike began and for many years previously, the U.M.W. of A. had signed agreements with the Edmonton mine operators. It is absurd for the mini-

ster to say now that the union is not the recognized bargaining agent of the men."

The Edmonton mine dispute was raised in the House again on Monday when the C.C.F. leader quoted from a statement by a government official who said that a vote to determine the bargaining agent at an Edmonton mine would be taken, with only the workers now employed being permitted to vote. Members of the United Mine Workers of Alberta who are on strike would not be permitted to vote.

Confined to Strikebreakers

"Does this mean," Mr. Roper asked, "that in the case of a strike by members of an established union which has enjoyed bargaining rights, and an employer succeeds in employing strikebreakers, it is to be the practice of the government to take a vote to determine a new bargaining agent confining the vote only to strikebreakers?"

The minister of trade and industry, Hon. C. E. Gerhart, said the legal point involved had been referred to the Supreme Court for decision. It was the contention of the department, he said, that such a vote could be taken for two reasons: the strike had been illegal and the employer had dismissed all the strikers.

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HOUSEWIVES' HOUSEWIFE



Head of a cookery unit of the British food ministry, Doreen Waskett helps housewives find new ways of providing appetizing meals from the scanty food allotments allowed under rigid rationing laws. Here she's making a breadcrumb, parsley, margarine meal. (Federated Pictures)

COST OF LIVING INDEX AT 150.1

OTTAWA (CPA)—The latest official cost of living index stands at 150.1, within a fraction of the all-time high price level in Canada at the close of the First World War.

The sharply rising price trend has climbed to dizzy heights since 1945, when price controls were first relaxed. The situation contrasts with a continual price incline throughout the First World War, when no effective steps were taken to control prices, reaching an inflationary peak in 1920.

This time we seem to have deliberately courted inflation. The government's stated policy of "orderly decontrol" in the post-war period has turned into a disorderly rout.

Canadians are looking back with regret to the moment at the end of the war when they had price control firmly established—and deliberately threw it away.

As the train pulled up at the wayside station the guard noticed smoke pouring out of a compartment labelled "No Smoking."

Opening the door, he eyed the six guilty-looking passengers seated inside.

"Gentlemen," he remarked, "there are two company rules on this line which are repeatedly broken. First, that smoking is forbidden in carriages not set aside for that purpose. Second, that the company's servants may not accept bribes. You have already broken one of these rules."

Robbing The Taxpayer

Radio Talk by A. J. E. Liesemer, M.L.A.

THE municipal property taxpayer is being forced to pay through the nose to build up huge surpluses for the provincial treasury. Since this Social Credit cabinet came to power the provincial treasury has had surpluses totalling about \$40,000,000. Now that is a fine thing for the province, but it is being done in part at least, at the expense of homeowners, merchants, and farmers who pay the property taxes in the municipalities.

Every year, Mr. Roper, the C.C.F. provincial leader, and I have been doing our best to get the Social Credit cabinet to relieve the municipal taxpayer of the part of his burden which the province should and could pay. Last year we were successful in getting this government to remove the 3 mills social service tax. But the municipal taxpayer is still paying more in four fields than he should, and more in total, than is paid by the municipal taxpayer in any other province in Canada. Here are the four extra charges:

Education

First, for education. It is well recognized that a modern educational system can no longer be paid for by local taxes only. Even with the small increase in grants this year—\$420,000—Alberta is paying only 30%, while the crisis in education can never be met until the provincial treasury, which could so well afford it, pays at least 50%.

Indigent Relief

Secondly, indigent relief. Alberta is the only province in Canada where the municipal taxpayer pays 100% of this service. In Saskatchewan the province pays half and in the richer province of B.C. the province pays 80%. The city of Calgary has just indicated that the increased cost of relief this year over last is about 1/3 of a mill—note that this is increase alone, not total cost.

Mothers' Allowances

Third, mothers' allowances. Here the municipal taxpayer pays in Alberta 25% of the costs. In every other province in Canada the province pays it all.

Old Age Pensions

And, finally, in old age pensions. Under the arrangements with the dominion, the federal government pays 75% and the provinces pay 25% of the basic. But in Alberta the province makes the municipal taxpayer assume part of the provincial costs—every municipality pays \$2 per pensioner. Seven out of 9 of the Canadian provinces faithfully bear their own costs. Yet this province, which has had surpluses totalling \$40,000,000 in 12 years and could so well afford to do its duty, sloughs off on the municipal taxpayer part of the provincial responsibility.

Pretending Deficits

Now all the time that the province has been building these surpluses it has been pretending that it was going to have deficits. Last year, for example, the Social Credit cabinet in its budget estimated that it would have a deficit of \$600,000, thereby telling the municipalities that it was hard up and could not afford this. Yet

actually it had a \$6,000,000 surplus. And so almost every year.

Altogether in the last 12 years the Social Credit government has indicated a total deficit of over \$12 million dollars. While actually it has built up surpluses totalling \$40 million. Surely that is fooling the people and robbing the municipal property taxpayer for the sake of the provincial treasury.

Saskatchewan's Fine Record

Now in his budget address Premier Manning bragged about how much municipal debt had been reduced in Alberta since 1939. Actually Alberta is one of the worst provinces from the point of reduction in municipal debt. But in Saskatchewan, where there is a C.C.F. government, the situation is entirely different. Let me quote from the Financial Post, which is certainly not a C.C.F. supporter: "Provincially, the biggest improvement in debt position is shown by Saskatchewan. Its municipal net debts has dropped from \$68.4 millions at the end of 1939 to \$17.7 millions at the end of 1947 or 74.2%."

Alberta Only Sixth

The same paper points out that Alberta is only sixth among the provinces in municipal debt reduction, with a reduction since 1939 of only 25.6%. Saskatchewan is first with a debt reduction of 74%; Alberta sixth with less than 26%.

And this Social Credit cabinet with its surpluses at the expense of the municipal taxpayer is building up the provincial treasury and making the municipal property taxpayer pay for services which are the responsibility of the province. Business men and home owners in the cities, towns and villages of Alberta and farmers in the rural municipalities as only hope to have their taxes reduced when a C.C.F. provincial government in Alberta gives the same fair treatment to them here in Alberta that the C.C.F. provincial government in Saskatchewan gives to its farmers, business men and home owners.

Wife: "Mrs. Smith has had three new hats since I bought this one."

Hubby: "Well, dear, if she were as pretty as you she wouldn't be so dependent on milliners."

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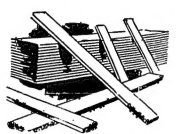
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WE CAN'T AFFORD TO BAR PROFESSORS FROM POLITICS

EDITORIAL IN MACLEAN'S MAGAZINE, MARCH 1, 1948

THE Board of Governors of McGill University recently passed an extraordinary resolution. We have not seen its full text, but its clear import was that no McGill faculty member, and particularly no dean, ought to take an active part in politics. Such activity would be considered not in the best interests of the university.

Like the King of Hearts' Rule 42—"All persons more than a mile high leave the court!"—the new law apparently was drafted with a particular case in mind. Professor Frank Scott is the senior member of the McGill law faculty and the logical choice for its dean. Professor Scott also happens to be national chairman of the C.C.F. McGill's governors do not seem to want the C.C.F. chairman as dean of their law school. Hence the effort to create a general principle on which to base their refusal.

It's Dangerous

A university, like any well-regulated institution has the right to ask that its senior employees refrain from trying to do two jobs at once. But we still believe it's dangerous to try to handle this sort of problem by writing rules about it. We think it's dangerous for any university to lay down a general rule discouraging faculty members from entering politics.

For the university, it is surely desirable that professors have active and fruitful contact with the life of the nation. Isolation, cloistered retreat, is the occupational disease of the academic, the limitation on their intellectual skill. The McGill governors would not merely allow a professor to dwell in an ivory tower, they would imprison him in it.

Need Higher I.Q.

For Canada, the need for trained minds in public life is too obvious for argument. Read any day's Hansard and you will see that we could bear with a higher average I.Q. among our legislators.

There is a widespread notion that "political professors" are all radicals. If this were true it would be a sad reflection on the intellectual attractions of the older parties. But in fact it is not true. If men of academic bent and training had been barred from public life during the last genera-

tion, all parties would have suffered.

Cites Cases

John Bracken, National Progressive-Conservative leader, went to the premiership of Manitoba from the presidency of the Manitoba Agricultural College.

Hon. Milton Gregg, V.C., now Minister of Veterans' Affairs, plunged into Liberal politics from the presidency of the University of New Brunswick.

Dr. Sidney Smith, president formerly of Manitoba and now of Toronto University, would have been a candidate for Progressive-Conservative leadership in 1942 if John Bracken hadn't run.

Rupert Rumsay, Progressive-Conservative leader in Saskatchewan, accepted that position while still earning his living as professor of agriculture in Saskatchewan University.

Grant McEwen, a professor formerly at Saskatchewan and now at Manitoba University, is an active Liberal whose name was often mentioned for the Saskatchewan leadership of that party before Walter Tucker took on the job.

These specific cases could be multiplied by many other

examples of continuing and valuable interflow between the academic and the political life. Prime Minister Mackenzie King had virtually decided to spend his life in university work when Sir William Mulock called him to the public service 48 years ago. Prime Minister R. B. Bennett came to politics after a background in the law faculty of Dalhousie University; so did Premier Angus Macdonald of Nova Scotia.

Not Yet Final

Of course, whatever the McGill governors may say, a professor can still accept any job he likes. But, in fact, would any of these men have entered public life had they known that in so doing they were writing finis to their academic careers; or if they'd known that political activity would be a bar to reinstatement or to further advancement in the field where they were already secure? We doubt it.

We understand the McGill governors' action is not yet final. It was prematurely released to the press and is even now under reconsideration. We trust that second thoughts will give the governors wisdom to change their minds.

C.C.F. Makes

(Continued from Page 1)

labor organizations won in any case only be "a waste of time."

The C.C.F. members, supported strongly by W. J. Williams and Arthur Wray, fought strenuously throughout committee consideration of the bill to have various sections amended, but were snowed under by the mass vote of government members.

Up Against Stone Wall

It was largely a case of butting heads against a stone wall. It was known that a government caucus had decided to oppose everything but the increase in the maximum. When this clause was reached the chair, by obvious prearrangement, recognized Gordon Taylor, S.C., Drumheller, who moved that the "wage ceiling" upon which compensation may be paid be raised from \$2,000 to \$2,500.

"The C.C.F. government in Saskatchewan has raised the wage ceiling to \$3,000.00," announced Mr. Roper during the debate. Amusement and consternation was evident on the faces of the Alberta cabinet ministers and their supporters. Mr. Liesemer fought strenuously by clause to get the recommendations of his minority report adopted by the house. He and Mr. Williams made a particularly strong plea to bring all payments to dependents of men who have been fatally injured up to the rates provided in the new act. Some widows are receiving only \$20 per month, the rate which applied in the early stages of the legislation when their husbands were killed.

Out of Luck

Under the new act there will be no increases for workmen or dependents now receiving compensation. The new rates apply only to accidents which take place after March 31, 1948.

A strong fight was also made for an increase in compensation to 75% of earnings. Mr. Liesemer pointed out that this could be done without increased assessments on industry, due to surpluses being collected at present rates. The 75% rate is being paid in Saskatchewan.

The net result will be reduction in assessment to industry at a period when industry is making the highest profits in history and when the excess profits tax is no longer in existence, said the C.C.F. M.L.A.

A BIT OF Nonsense

Then there was the little girl who sat in a Sunday school class and heard the teacher ask this question:

"What are the sins of omission?"

The tot timidly raised her hand and replied:

"I think they're the sins we should have committed, and did not."

A touring actor has played the part of Lincoln so many times that he has assumed the habits of the great president, even going so far as to adopt characteristic garb.

Recently, dressed in the cape and tall hat of Lincoln's day, he nodded gravely to another repertory actor.

Waiting until the Lincoln-minded Thespian was out of earshot, the other murmured: "That fellow will never be satisfied until he is assassinated."

A small boy was taken out to tea with neighbors. In the middle of the meal he turned to his hostess and asked her in his best conversational manner: "Did you enjoy your holidays, Mrs. Brown?"

"My holiday?" said Mrs. Brown.

"I'm afraid I don't understand. I haven't been away."

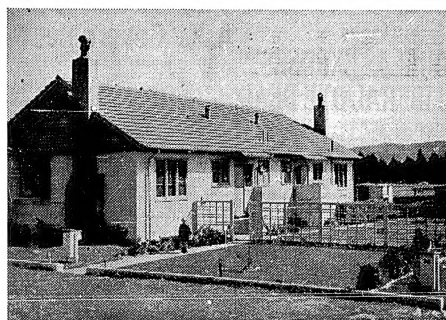
"Oh," said the boy. "I thought you had. I heard Mummy say that you and Mr. Brown had been at Loggerheads for the past fortnight."

In the club a group of men were sitting, one of them an actor who had recently scored a great success. He had knocked around the stage for years and years without getting anywhere when the big break finally arrived. And, as a result, his head had grown to abnormal proportions.

"I'm terrific," he assured them seriously. "The entire nation is conscious of me now. Why, a tobacco concern had me down this afternoon and named a cigar after me."

"Wonderful!" yawned one of the group. "And for their sake, I certainly hope it will 'draw better than you did for some years!'"

The advertisements on these pages are your guide to complete shopping satisfaction.



A STATE HOUSE, STRATHMORE, WELLINGTON, N.Z.

For Rent: \$3 to \$6 Week - In New Zealand

By MAURICE KITCHING

WELLINGTON, N.Z.—With a friend I was visiting a house in course of construction the other day. It was just after 3:00 p.m., and the builders, after the fashion of nearly everyone in New Zealand, who can manage it about that time, had knocked off work for a few minutes for a cup of tea.



We got to talking with them. My friend, a strong Conservative, said:

"Of course, it's all wrong—the government here building so many houses. If they'd left the job to private enterprise we would have got more houses."

To a man, the five building tradesmen disagreed with him.

Unanimously they declared that private enterprise could not have done the great job of home-building that the Labor government has done in New Zealand. Private enterprise, they pointed out, could not or would not have acquired the land, roaded and drained it, and supplied it with water, gas and electricity, then built the houses on it at a price which would allow them to be rented at a reasonable price. Only the state could have done the job.

These men are not state employees. They were building a private house for a private employer. For that matter, all the state rental houses in N.Z. are built by private builders under state architectural supervision.

25,000 Homes

In the 12 years of its existence, the Labor government's housing construction department has had 25,000 modern houses built, all over N.Z.

Clough Williams-Ellis, an eminent British architect, said of these houses recently: "New Zealand's state houses are admirable individually. Their design has been purged of the meaningless and vulgar accretions of the jerry-builders, and they represent

an admirable starting place for a renaissance of N.Z. architecture."

A Grand Job This expert described the average N.Z. state rental home as "a good, honest, clean job," and he thought the state rental homes were much the best part of every N.Z. town. "They are a terrific boon to you," he told New Zealanders. "It's grand that they are so good when they might easily have turned out to be disastrous like some of our council houses in England." His only adverse criticism was that the houses could have been better grouped.

These are the houses that are rented to N.Z. families by the government for rentals ranging from \$3 to \$6 a week. They are modern and complete in every respect. For the same type of houses, private owners easily get twice the rent the state asks.

The government is not preventing private house-building. Rather, it looks on privately built homes as a valuable addition to its own program, and so provides easy finance for the purpose.

Last year the number of houses built—for state and private owners—was an all-time record, but it is hoped to better that record this year.

Keep Up Standards

One thing the government will not do, and that is lower the standard of its housing, as has been suggested by some of its political opponents, who say its houses are too good for the working people.

To which Works Minister R. Semple replied: "We set out to build comfortable homes where mothers could rear their children amid pleasant surroundings. If that is our special crime we must confess we are criminals."

"But we believe that everyone who toils and spins doing the nation's work is entitled to a comfortable home in a pleasant environment. Workers should not have to drag up their children in slums, as they did centuries ago. My personal ambition is not to build hovels or slums but to improve on the houses we are now building to give the people better homes, not worse."

DISABLED MINERS IN TOY INDUSTRY

LONDON (CPA)—A high-grade toy works is to be opened in Britain which will give employment exclusively to disabled miners. It will provide work for about 200 men, who will be cared for by resident doctors provided by the management.

The scheme is being sponsored by the chairman of the Austin Motor Company and is his personal idea. It will be run without profit. Most of the necessary raw materials used for making the toys will be steel and leather left over from the manufacture of Austin cars.

The first toys which the new factory will produce will be racing cars and open touring models.

They will be finished up to the usual high standard of Britain's full-sized cars and fitted with dummy engines and pneumatic tires. They will be a good size and it is anticipated that they will find a ready market abroad, as well as in Britain itself.

C.C.F. RADIO TALKS

Calgary, CFCN, 6:25 p.m., Monday.
Edmonton, CFRN, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday.
Grande Prairie, CFGP, 7:00 p.m. Wednesday.
Calgary, CPAC, 5:40 p.m. Saturday.
Lethbridge, CJOC, 8:30 p.m. Saturday.
Edmonton, CJCA, 10:15 p.m. Saturday.

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In Saskatchewan

DOUGLAS EXPOSES
LIBERAL DYE DEAL

REGINA (CPA)—Premier T. C. Douglas in the legislature last week revealed details of dye purchases by which the Patterson Liberal administration paid more than \$369,160 in excess profit into the treasury of a "dummy" company.

The aniline dye is used by the tax commission to mix with gasoline and to create the "purple gas" which is not subject to provincial taxation because it is used exclusively in agricultural production.

The premier revealed that the Acme Dye and Chemical Company, Limited was formed in Regina on September 20, 1940 and capitalized at \$10,000 in 400 shares of \$25 each. But only four of these shares were ever issued, Premier Douglas pointed out. "Three of them were in the hands of Peter Deis, former secretary of the Saskatchewan Liberal Association, I believe, and his wife."

The premier said the records showed that the Liberal government had been paying Acme \$5.80 a pound although the Canadian agents for the manufacturers of the dye had offered to supply the government with dye at a considerably lower rate if it would buy direct. This information was revealed when the Canadian agents for the dye firm supplied the government with copies of letters missing from the old files.

The premier pointed out that today through its own purchasing agency, the C.C.F. government is buying its dye direct from the National Aniline company at \$2.36 a pound. "In other words," he said, "the Liberal government was paying the Acme company \$3.44 a pound more than necessary. On the 20,000 pounds they bought this excess totalled about \$69,160."

"Does anyone suggest," he asked, "that this money went to the people who had invested \$100, or was this a way of buttressing the campaign funds of the Liberal party in this province. It was taken out of the treasury. Where did it go?"

"This is just one of the ways in which Liberal campaign funds were maintained in years when the machine needed a lot of grease."

A man was jammed against the gates of the subway and 'nearly suffocated by the pressure of the crowd. He had to be taken home by ambulance.

The policeman who accompanied him knocked repeatedly on the door of his house, and at last a voice called out from inside: "Who is it?"

"Your husband," answered the policeman. "He's been crushed flat as a pancake in the subway and I've brought him home."

"Well, slide him under the door," was the reply. "I'm in my bath."

Asks Government
(Continued from Page 1)

by Fred Dowling, Canadian Director of U.P.W.A. to be \$10,000,000. "These losses to the farmers," charged Mr. Liesemer, "were gains to the grain trade and packing plant monopolies and were reflected in higher prices to the consumers here in Canada and in Great Britain."

Mr. Liesemer pointed out that the hog breeding stock was now at the lowest point in seven years and it could not be built up until after the next harvest of coarse grains.

Losing British Market
"One of the most serious results of the whole situation," concluded the speaker, "is the effect on our bacon market in Great Britain. For years before the war we were competing for the bacon market with the Danish co-operatives and it was a most difficult struggle. Both dominion and provincial governments spent considerable sums to persuade farmers to produce the right type of hog for the British market."

"Then the war shut Denmark off from Britain and gratuitously handed to Canadian farmers the British market. This was an advantage which we should have striven to maintain at all costs. But in one stroke, by removing coarse grains from the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board, the federal government destroyed this advantage and already Great Britain has come to Denmark for some of its bacon supplies. So now we must laboriously start all over to regain the British market. And the first step must be to assure Canadian farmers of some stability in factors of production and marketing. This can only be achieved by starting with the handling of coarse grains by the Canadian Wheat Board."

Answery Against It
Mr. Sayer (S.C.-Camrose) stated that he knew organized farmers were in favor of this C.C.F. motion but he doubted if unorganized farmers were. He indicated, however, that he would support it, though with some reluctance.

Earl Ansley (S.C.-Leduc) made the only contribution to any debate since his resignation from the Department of Education. He made the rather startling charge that this motion of the C.C.F. members was simply "another back door method of bringing socialism to this country. In the interests of freedom I am obliged to vote against this," said Mr. Ansley.

On Quicksand

(Continued from Page 4)
the completely exploited and degrading Turner Valley field, other oil and gas fields, known and unknown, a conservation program for land, forest, fish and fur, and the probability that the Leduc field will be five times greater than shown here, the premier of Alberta is on quicksand footing.

Sask. Civil Servants

WILL GET A COST
OF LIVING BONUS

REGINA.—Provisions for payment of a cost-of-living bonus and an advanced merit and seniority premium basis for Saskatchewan civil servants have been included in a new labor agreement between the Saskatchewan government and its public service employees. Signing of the new contract was announced jointly by Premier T. C. Douglas and William Leonard, secretary-treasurer of the Saskatchewan Civil Service Association (T.L.C.).

All employees affected by the agreement will receive a cost-of-living bonus, retroactive to November 1, 1947, at the rate of \$1 per point or fraction of a point increase above 140 points in the dominion cost-of-living index. The index now stands at 150.1.

In addition, some wage rates were adjusted to bring them in line with comparable classifications within the public service and prevailing rates elsewhere.

Equal Pay

Other features of the new agreement include provisions covering equal pay for equal work; check off; maintenance of membership; position and union security; seniority in re-employment after lay-off; extended overtime pay provisions; three weeks' annual vacation with pay; three weeks' annual sick leave with pay; extended portion cumulative; revised grievance procedure and sustenance and travelling allowance provisions; and veteran preference in employment.

Overtime pay provisions at the rate of time-and-a-half have been extended to include employees earning up to \$2,400 per year, and an optional savings plan for permanent employees not eligible for superannuation has also been introduced.

Recognize Merit, Seniority

Promotions will be made on principles of merit and seniority, including qualifications by written examinations and by selection panels consisting of three or more persons qualified to evaluate relative merits of candidates for promotion. In all cases a union appointee will be present to represent employee interests when the selection is made.

Commenting on the agreement, Premier Douglas said that its "progressive" promotional clauses would ensure the efficient transaction of the people's business, while Mr. Leonard said that from a union viewpoint the agreement was "documentary proof of the soundness and effectiveness of collective bargaining agreements in public service jurisdictions."

CANADIAN ARTISTS
DONATE PICTURES

OTTAWA.—An auction exhibition of 30 paintings and five works of sculpture—chosen by the artists from the best of their recent work—has been donated by the Canadian Arts Council for the Canadian Appeal for Children, whose campaign for \$10,000,000 is in full swing.

The first public showing—and auction—of the works of art was opened at Ottawa by Viscount Alexander, governor-general of Canada, at the National Gallery on February 9. Seated bids were accepted from 300 persons for the pictures and sculptures, after which the exhibition started a nationwide tour, going first to Toronto and Montreal, with several western cities listed to follow. In each city, the bids will open at a minimum level fixed by the Arts Council.

At the end of the tour, every bidder will be given the chance to make one more bid—the highest winning possession of the work. Purchasers and artists will receive receipts exempting their donations from income taxes.

Price Control Is
(Continued from Page 5)

numbering well over 1,000,000 persons, also asked for government action on housing, which it placed second only to prices as a national emergency. Representations were made for a national labor code and amendments to unemployment insurance regulations.

Dealing with international affairs, the C.C.L. commended the government on its general policy and particularly participation in affairs of the United Nations and assistance to devastated countries.

A Poor Substitute

Dealing with prices and price control the congress said:

"The congress believes that the action taken by the government in establishing a parliamentary committee to investigate prices has done nothing more than expose the profit-seeking of various groups of manufacturers and distributors, and was in no way an adequate substitute for price controls."

"The workers of Canada from coast to coast have strongly protested against the government's policy, but the government is obviously reluctant to accede to their urgent demands."

Need Higher Wages

"In the circumstances workers have no alternative but to seek further increases in order to cope as far as possible with the high prices," the congress said. "The wage policy they adopt, however, will be determined to some extent by the action taken by the government in reimposing controls and excess profits taxes, and in re-establishing subsidies."

Attention was drawn to the current Canadian unemployment situation.

"At the present time over 200,000 Canadians are out of work, and the assurances of government spokesmen that this situation will improve are reminiscent of the great depression," the brief said. "We, therefore, feel the government should undertake the development of industries in those sections of the country where seasonal unemployment constitutes a heavy and recurring drain upon the national economy."

Mail your order to the advertiser and remember to tell him you saw his ad in the People's Weekly.

PERSONAL STUFF
(Continued from Page 1)

sider it a privilege and honor to have been taught by such a great man, great thinker, and superlative teacher, as Mr. Shortliffe.

"I believe there could be no higher incentive to a teacher or anyone who hopes to enter that profession, than a reference to the life of Mr. Shortliffe, who was a born teacher—and died while teaching! Such a man is the most unforgettable character that have ever known."

Del Shortliffe would have liked that!

I remember him chiefly as a staunch and loyal friend. For part of our lives the Shortliffes lived across the road from us. Our youngsters were about the same age as theirs. They played together, maybe had their little scraps for all I know. A fine family, warm-hearted, friendly, good neighbors. We had, of course, a closer bond than that. No words of encouragement, no expression of comradeship was ever more uplifting than those received from Del Shortliffe. His support was like a rock upon which one could stand, his commendation a challenge, his favor an inspiration. Something very important has gone out of my own life in the passing of Del Shortliffe.

Demand for Local
(Continued from Page 1)

between main highways and market roads," Mr. Roper said, "because the government has received a similar demand from all the farm organizations."

Calling attention to the fact that the government had a cash surplus of \$26,599,996 at the end of the last fiscal year, the C.C.F. leader said it did not make sense to farmers to be travelling over condemned bridges on their country roads, or going long distances around because their bridges were around, when there was that much money in the bank.

"We have no objection to the needed improvement of the main highway system," said the C.C.F. member, "but we join with the farm organizations in objecting to the entire attention of the department of public works being devoted to main and tourist highways to the neglect of local market roads and bridges."

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